

What is Claimed is:

1. A method of alleviating the symptoms of muscle pain or muscle wasting in general comprising administering to a patient suffering from muscle pain or muscle wasting an effective amount of an androgen so that the symptoms are alleviated.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the androgen comprises a testosterone derivative or a growth hormone derivative.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein a combination of androgens is administered to the patient.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the combination of androgens comprises testosterone or a testosterone derivative and dehydroepiandrosterone.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein a combination of an androgen and a growth hormone is administered to the patient.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein a combination of an androgen and a compound that increases levels of growth hormone in blood is administered to the patient.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of growth hormone releasing peptides, growth hormone releasing hormone, IGF-1, and IGF-2.

8. The method of claim 6 wherein the compound is a growth hormone releasing peptide mimetic compound that is between 2 and 20 amino acids in length and is known to release growth hormone.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the growth hormone releasing peptide mimetic is hexarelin or equivalent peptide.